

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 532

By Eldridge

A RESOLUTION to congratulate the Business and Professional Women of Tennessee for their meritorious service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those estimable organizations that strive to achieve equity for all women in the workplace through advocacy, education, and information; and

WHEREAS, the Business and Professional Women of Tennessee is one such notable organization that evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all its chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, with noble objectives, the highly esteemed Business and Professional Women of Tennessee seeks to elevate the standards for women in business and in the professions, promote the interests of business women, bring about a spirit of cooperation among business and professional women of the United States, and extend opportunities to business and professional women through education along the lines of industrial, scientific, and vocational activities; and

WHEREAS, the Business and Professional Women has gained prestige and power for the businesses and professionals of Tennessee; taking part in affairs that affect women, the organization maintains a long tradition of community usefulness; and

WHEREAS, over the years, Business and Professional Women of Tennessee has been well represented in the National Business and Professional Federation; two outstanding national presidents, Miss Charl Ormond Williams and Miss Osta Underwood, have hailed from this State, as well as national treasurers, Mrs. Sara C. Bruce and Miss Wanda Carter (Bates); recording secretary and second vice president, Miss Ann Scott; an executive secretary, Miss Elinor

Coonrod; a national parliamentarian, Miss Margaret Heath; and several committee chairs and members; and

WHEREAS, Business and Professional Women of Tennessee, which comprises twelve local organizations within the State, from the Smokey Mountains to the Mississippi River, has a long and accomplished history; and

WHEREAS, in June of 1919, approximately one hundred business and professional women met in the YWCA in Nashville to solicit interest in attendance at the organizational meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, for the purpose of establishing the National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, in July 3, 1919, a group of women representing seven business and professional women's clubs of Tennessee met in the Hotel Patten in Chattanooga and agreed that a state federation should be formed; and

WHEREAS, the seven charter clubs of the Tennessee Federation include Chattanooga Business and Professional Women's Club, Jackson Business and Professional Women's Club, Knoxville Business and Professional Women's Club, Memphis Business and Professional Women's Club, and Business and Professional Women's Club of Nashville; and

WHEREAS, Business and Professional Women of Tennessee's annual convention will convene in Jackson from June 12-14, 2014; and State President and Jackson resident Jacque Hillman will lend her leadership talents to the conference; and

WHEREAS, Jacque Hillman has exemplified empowerment for women and girls in Tennessee and delivered visionary new programs on their behalf. As a senior level innovative manager for *The Jackson Sun* from 1993-2012, Jacque developed new projects: The Sterling Awards, 20 Most Influential Women in West Tennessee, the Pat Kerr Tigrett Fashion Retrospective magazine produced on-site within two hours for guests, and in 2012, *Jackson Life* magazine. She co-anchored Newsmakers on WLJT-TV and was an editorial board member and editorial writer. As Business and Professional Women of Tennessee President, she has moved to expand the organization to college campuses and post-secondary institutions and promote programming for women veterans; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud the past and present members of Business and Professional Women of Tennessee for their dedication to improving the workplace for the women of this State and Nation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVEED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend the members of the Business and Professional Women of Tennessee for their meritorious service to the women of the State of Tennessee and this Nation, and we extend to them and to President Jacque Hillman our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of the resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.